

PROFILE

LGBT pioneer Saralyn Chesnut is proud to have been part of making change. **Page 2**



FIRST PERSON

Travel program to Vietnam takes Mike McQuaide and students on an inner journey. **Page 7**



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SPECIAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INSERT

Alternatives to working 9 to 5



Telecommuting, along with flexible schedules and compressed workweeks, are Alternate Work Arrangements offered by Emory to employees to support work-life balance. BRYAN MELTZ

By **LESLIE KING**

Gas prices, traffic and parking are the critical factors pushing Emory's increased emphasis on alternative work arrangements (AWA).

Human Resources is developing a set of guidelines that managers and staff can use to encourage AWAs in appropriate circumstances, says Human Resources Vice President Peter Barnes, adding that a manager's support makes

for successful implementation.

In the meantime, "We really want to encourage managers, in the view of the economy, the gas prices, the commuting difficulties, to look at AWA," he says.

Please see **WORK** on page 4

Center to marry politics, biology

By **KATHI BAKER**

A new Center for Neuropolicy at Emory will focus on how the biology of the brain influences decision-making in politics, policy and business.

As a partnership among researchers in the Emory School of Medicine, Emory College and the Goizueta Business School, the Center will create an ideal environment to accelerate discovery in this emerging field.

"Emory's vision is to work collaboratively for positive transformation in the world," says President Jim Wagner. "This new center brings together some of the brightest minds at our university and has the potential to effect policy change on problems of global importance through an exciting and emerging field of discovery."

The Center is the vision of Gregory S. Berns, professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory School of Medicine.

Please see **NEUROPOLICY** on page 5

Creating chemistry of hope

By **CAROL CLARK**

Sometimes the chemistry just isn't right. Most people give up in that situation, but Dennis Liotta persists until he comes up with a solution.

The Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Chemistry was determined to help establish a biotechnology company focused on the needs of the developing world. After a long journey with many false starts, funding was secured and the business model for the project was reformulated.

In July, iThembaPharmaceuticals officially began operations

Please see **LIOTTA** on page 3

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

www.creativity.emory.edu

Emory's Creativity & Arts Initiative and the new Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts have launched a Web site with information on the events, projects and grants they sponsor; news and resources; and other innovative Emory initiatives. Highlights include information on Creativity Conversations, the Evolution Project, Arts Passport, Out There Arts and the upcoming Creativity & Arts Soiree Sept. 5. The site also features student resources, innovator profiles and links to the Arts at Emory Web site.

CORRECTION

A photo on page 6 of the July 7 issue of Emory Report should have been credited to Emory photographer Jack Kearse. We regret the error.

FIRST PERSON ESSAYS

Do you have a story to tell? An experience to reflect on? ER provides an opportunity to reach out in its weekly First Person essay. To learn more, contact Editor Kim Urquhart at kim.urquhart@emory.edu or 404-727-9507.

ABOUT US

Emory Report serves as an informative, lively and comprehensive resource for news and events of vital interest to staff and faculty. The weekly publication highlights the Emory community's accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations that reflect the University's identity and strategic vision. Visit us online at www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT.

EMORY report

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Nancy Seideman
nancy.seideman@emory.edu

EDITOR
Kim Urquhart
kim.urquhart@emory.edu

DESIGNER
Christi Gray
christi.gray@emory.edu

PHOTO DIRECTOR
Bryan Meltz
bryan.meltz@emory.edu

STAFF WRITER
Carol Clark
carol.clark@emory.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Leslie King
ltking@emory.edu

EMORY REPORT (USPS705-780) is published and distributed free to faculty and staff of Emory University, 36 times annually by the Office of Communications and Marketing. Periodicals postage is paid at Atlanta, Georgia. Postmaster: Send off-campus address changes to Emory Report, 1762 Clifton Rd., Plaza 1000, Atlanta, Georgia, 30322. Send e-mail to emory.report@emory.edu.

EMORY PROFILE: Saralyn Chesnut



Saralyn Chesnut is adjunct professor of American and women's studies and outgoing director of the Office of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Life. BRYAN MELTZ

Diversity, equality, social justice

LGBT leader linked activism, academia to make a difference

By KIM URQUHART

In her 15-year tenure as director of the Office of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Life, Saralyn Chesnut '94G promoted diversity, acceptance and equality, helping shape many of the University's LGBT policies. So with a sense of satisfaction, she turned over the reins to new director Michael Shutt in June.

"I'm just really happy to have had the opportunity to be a part of making change. And I think Emory will keep moving in the right direction," says Chesnut, who will continue to teach American and Women's Studies courses as adjunct assistant professor in the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts.

The longtime activist marched across campus and chanted with protesters in March of 1992, dissatisfied with the administration's response when two gay students were harassed in their residence hall.

In the aftermath of this protest, President Jim Laney appointed a task force to assess the climate for LGB people at Emory and recommend ways to improve it. The first was to hire a full-time professional director to head what was then the Office of LGB Student

Life, and enlarge its scope to encompass staff and faculty.

Chesnut was a doctoral candidate in the ILA and teaching writing at Georgia Tech when she saw the employment ad. "When this job came along it was the perfect combination of academia and activism. It was a chance to make a difference here, and also teach on a college campus," she recalls.

She became the office's first director in 1993. "At the time there were very few offices like this in the country," she says. "When I was first hired there was so much energy and enthusiasm, a sense of community. Everyone was in it together pushing for these changes."

Chesnut set out to ensure that the president's task force recommendations were implemented. In her first year as director, the University revised its Equal Opportunity Policy to include sexual orientation as a protected category. She helped establish the Gay Pride banquet, Safe Space program, a speaker's bureau and brought National Coming Out Day to campus.

The momentum continued. Chesnut and the Office of LGB Life were instrumental in winning benefits for students' and employees' same-sex

domestic partners.

"Emory was on the forefront of universities at the time," Chesnut says. "More importantly, because Emory is a major employer it really paved the way for the city and the area."

Another major policy change Chesnut championed was protection for transgender people. In 1998, the department was renamed and expanded as the Office of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Life. In 2006 Emory's Equal Opportunity Policy was revised to protect transgender people, based on a proposal from the President's Commission on LGBT Concerns.

Each year, the office sees "more and more first-year students who have already come out," she notes. "I think our society as a whole has reached a tipping point. I don't think there is any going back on gay rights," she says, but "that's not to say there isn't opposition."

Raised in a Southern Baptist family in Tifton, Ga., "I sort of suspected something was different about me, even in high school," recalls Chesnut. It wasn't until she went to college at the University of Georgia and fell in love with her sorority sister that she came to terms with that

difference.

She moved to Atlanta in the 1970s to join the thriving lesbian/feminist community in Little Five Points. She later published an oral history of the neighborhood's Charis Books & More, the South's oldest feminist bookstore.

Chesnut produces oral histories with students in her American and Women's Studies courses. "It's a different way to learn history," she explains. "I've amassed quite a few oral histories of gay people here at Emory," which she plans to archive at Woodruff Library.

She has also led dialogue groups for the Transforming Community Project, which is documenting the history of race at Emory.

"Social justice is one of my core values and I'll keep being involved," says Chesnut. She will continue her work with the Emory Gay and Lesbian Alumni association to raise funds for an endowed scholarship.

She also wants to travel, garden and cheer on the WNBA's Atlanta Dream. She plans to write as a freelancer, and is earning a Web certificate from Emory Center for Lifelong Learning. Her next project? Creating a wikipedia on gay history.

People

Three new trustees approved

By ERIC RANGUS

A top administrator at Princeton University, a global leader in investment banking and the head of the world's largest provider of distribution facilities and services will join Emory's Board of Trustees this fall.

Rick Rieder '83B is president/CEO of R3 Capital Partners in New York. Rieder spent 21 years at Lehman Brothers, most recently as managing director and head of global principal strategies. A longtime supporter of urban education in America and abroad, Rieder is chairman of the board at North Star Academy Charter Public School in Newark, N.J., and recently was named to the National Leadership Council for the Communities in Schools Foundation. Rieder, who earned his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, is a member of Goizueta's Dean's Advisory Council and a 2005 recipient of the Goizueta Business School Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. Rieder's wife, Debra Leib Rieder '85B, also is a graduate of Goizueta Business School.

Katherine Rohrer '74C is vice provost for academic programs at Princeton University. Prior to being named vice provost in 2001, she served for eight years as associate dean of the faculty. An accomplished teacher, Rohrer has served on the faculty of both Princeton and Columbia universities. Following an undergraduate degree in music from Emory, Rohrer earned a master of fine arts degree and doctorate in musicology from Princeton. Rohrer's ties to Emory run deep. All three of her siblings and both of her parents have Emory degrees. Her father, Robert Rohrer '39C-'42G, was a professor of physics here. She currently serves on the Emory Alumni Board, is a volunteer with the Emory Alumni Association's Alumni Admission Network, and previously served on the Arts & Sciences Women's Council.

Jeffrey Schwartz '81B, a resident of Denver, is chairman, CEO and a trustee of ProLogis, the largest global provider of distribution facilities and services. Following his graduation from Emory, Schwartz earned an MBA at Harvard. He was the founder and managing partner

of the Krauss/Schwartz Company, which was acquired by ProLogis in 1994. Throughout his career, Schwartz has been a strong proponent of sustainable development and has been justly honored. In 2006, Commercial Property News named him "Developer of the Year" and "Industrial Property Executive of the Year." He received the latter honor once again in 2007. Schwartz's two brothers and wife, Carole, also are Emory alumni.

The 37-member Board of Trustees oversees the governance and long-range fiduciary health of the University. With the addition of Rieder, Rohrer and Schwartz, the Board of Trustees will include 11 alumni trustees, who serve six-year terms as full board members; term trustees serve six years. Alumni trustee nominees are selected by the Nominating and Leadership Committee of the EAB and submitted to the Board of Trustees via the Governance, Trusteeship, and Nominating Committee for consideration and approval. Final approval rests with the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist

Church.

"These three new trustees represent the wide range of alumni expertise and talent," says Rosemary Magee '82PhD, vice president and secretary of the University, who works closely with the Board of Trustees. "They will serve Emory extremely well as we continue on the trajectory of becoming a national and international destination university."

The Board of Trustees voted on several other action items at its midyear meeting and retreat in June. The board agreed to name Freshman Halls 2 and 3, within Phase Two of the Emory Freshman Residence Hall Complex, after Ignatius Alphonso Few, the first president of Emory College, and Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans, the first woman to serve on Emory's Board of Trustees. The board also approved site locations for the Woodruff Health Sciences Center Program and Facilities Five-Year Plan, the budget for the Oxford Road Building and parking deck project, and membership for the 2008-09 Board of Visitors.

ACCLAIM

Four professors received the Woolford B. Baker Award presented annually to individuals or organizations who have demonstrated outstanding service to the Carlos Museum or the Atlanta cultural community.

Michael Berger, associate professor of religion and the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies; **Carl Holladay**, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of New Testament; **Carol Newsom**, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Old Testament; and **Richard Valantasis**, professor of ascetical theology and Christian practice and director of Anglican Studies, were honored for their contributions to the museum's "Cradle of Christianity" exhibition.

James Lah, clinical core leader of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, receives the Tomorrow's Leader in Alzheimer's Disease Research Award this month.



The award, which comes with a \$100,000 prize, recognizes the associate professor in neurology's research on understanding disease-causing mechanisms to improve the care of people with neurodegenerative disorders.

Richard Prior, composer and Emory Symphony Orchestra conductor, received the Harvey Phillips Award for Composition Excellence at the International Tubaphonium Conference.



The award was in recognition of Prior's work, "Divisions," composed for music faculty member Adam Frey.

"Divisions" was released on CD earlier this year by MSR Classics with support from the Georgia Council for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Salman Rushdie has been knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and has been voted the greatest Booker Prizewinner in the history of the literary award.



The British monarch conferred the knighthood on the author a year after the announcement provoked protests from the Muslim world.

The Man Booker Prize for Fiction, celebrating its 40th anniversary, named Rushdie's "Midnight's Children" the best of the Booker.

Rushdie is Distinguished Writer in Residence at Emory.

"Acclaim" recognizes the accomplishments of faculty and staff. Listings may include awards and prizes; election to boards and societies; and similarly notable accomplishments at Emory or in the wider community. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: ltking@emory.edu.

LIOTTA: Creating global chemistry



"I like to jumpstart things," says Dennis Liotta, a medicinal chemist with a passion for the developing world.

Continued from the cover

in a suburb of Johannesburg, South Africa. iThemba (pronounced e-tem'ba) means "hope" in Zulu.

"I guess we were stubborn enough," Liotta says of the international group of six scientists who worked for seven years to move the project from concept to concrete reality.

"A more sensible person probably would have walked away, but I believe in this," Liotta adds. "Addressing unmet medical needs in the developing world is one of those ideas that I feel compelled to see happen. We have to give it a try."

Liotta is part of an interdis-

ciplinary team of researchers at Emory that has developed two FDA-approved drugs — including the breakthrough HIV therapy Emtriva — and has four other drugs in clinical trials.

Not only is he one of the world's foremost medicinal chemists, Liotta is also dedicated to developing what he considers a vital, missing element in global health — human capital in the developing world. He spearheads the Emory Global Health Drug Discovery Program, which brings South African scholars here for hands-on research training. The visiting scientists gain knowledge in how to develop therapies for combating the epidemics faced

by their country, but they have few opportunities to apply that knowledge back home.

Liotta and a group of other eminent scientists had an idea: Why not start a biotech lab in Johannesburg, to serve as a catalyst? "South Africans are creative and versatile. We figured that, if they see a success, they will probably try to replicate it," Liotta explains.

The scientists started the company on paper. The original business plan called for conducting contract chemical synthesis of drugs for epidemics affecting Africa's impoverished populations — especially HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. Many pharmaceutical companies are unwilling to invest in medicines for these diseases, since the markets are small and the profits are lower in the developing world. iThemba would help fill that gap.

"We pursued different approaches for funding, but each time it never materialized," Liotta says. "The problem was, iThemba had no intellectual property."

Finally, funding was secured from two South African government programs, LifeLAB and BioPAD, which agreed to provide about \$5 million in start-up costs for iThemba.

Meanwhile, India, China and Eastern Europe had grown into major centers for contract synthesis, making that operating model less viable for South Africa. A new business plan was needed.

Once again, Liotta and his colleagues came through with solutions.

Emory researchers had found a new, faster method for synthesizing the HIV drug Abacavir. Could the method be

scaled up in a way that could reduce production costs?

In addition, Emory researchers had developed novel pro-drug inhibitors for targeting latent tuberculosis — a disease that often accompanies HIV and is persistent and difficult to treat. Could the pro-drug inhibitors be turned into an easy-to-use and effective compound for treating latent TB?

Liotta arranged for iThemba to receive licensing agreements to conduct further nuts-and-bolts research into both of these important questions.

"We're going to try and find other technologies that have been discovered at pharmaceutical companies but haven't been pursued because the markets are in the developing world," Liotta says of iThemba. "It's an interesting business model. We think we can make modest profits and be even more successful every now and then, when we discover something with markets in both the developing and non-developing world."

Beginning with a core staff of seven, iThemba is now at work on the company's mission to bring more affordable treatments for devastating diseases to Africa and beyond. After years of his own work on the project, including dozens of trips to South Africa, Liotta remains an enthusiastic advocate of that mission.

"I like to jumpstart things," he says. "It's fun learning about another country and what's important to people in different cultures. South Africa is a beautiful place to visit and the people are very friendly. It's easy to get sucked into wanting to help."

TAKE NOTE

Summer dates for wellness fairs

The next two wellness fairs will be July 23, in Campus Services, 201 FM Drive, Building B; and Aug. 21, in Rollins School of Public Health.

Screenings for blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol and body mass index measurements are offered, as well as other services — all free, said Eddie Gammill, manager of wellness programs for the Faculty Staff Assistance Program.

Gammill noted results are provided immediately. Also, the fairs offer the opportunity to talk to a health coach and to get information from Emory's medical vendors.

See <http://www.fsap.emory.edu/> for more information on the fairs.

Brain cancer genes tracked

Emory Winship Cancer Institute's brain tumor program will help catalogue genetic alterations in glioblastoma, the most aggressive form of brain cancer.

The effort is part of the Cancer Genome Atlas, a National Institutes of Health-sponsored project on brain, lung and ovarian cancer.

Patients are asked to contribute cancer tissue and blood samples, which will be analyzed for DNA alterations and which genes are turned on or off.

The project's goal is to collect 500 cases per tumor type. It "is also expected to find new gene defects associated with cancer development, new targets for treatment and improve the understanding of risk and prevention in brain cancer," said Erwin G. Van Meir, co-director of Emory's brain tumor program.

Chefs' demos at farmers' market

Chefs' demonstrations, with the theme of Mediterranean diet-style dishes, are coming to Emory's farmers' market on the Cox Hall Bridge and other campus locations.

On July 22, "Iron Skillet Mediterranean" will feature the technique of pan searing; hummus is the featured dish on Aug. 5.

To learn about other upcoming chef demos, part of Step Up Emory's nutrition campaign in partnership with other campus organizations, visit emory.hr.emory.edu/step-up/healthybody-healthyearth/healthy_body_meals.html.

New vendors coming to the Tuesday farmers' markets are Indian Ridge Farm selling local produce; Steve Miller's made-on-site tortillas; Farmer Becky Donville; Yang's Flowers and Farm; Zocalo's fresh salsas; and Sparkman's dairy ice cream.

WORK: Flexibility a strategic goal

Continued from the cover

AWA is part of the University's strategic Work-Life Initiative. Arrangements include flex times and compressed workweeks — those are the most popular, says Barnes — and telecommuting.

Experiences in different University departments are as flexible as the options.

"I love it. It really increases my productivity," says Melissa Blackmon, in the School of Medicine's environmental health and safety division, who works four 10-hour days with one off. "For me, the early time [in the morning] is good; I get a lot done. Then the calls die down in the afternoon and I get a lot more done."

Her department will evaluate AWA when it ends its three-month trial in August.

Sharon Ashley, who works on the Grady campus of the School of Medicine, says it was her supervisor who suggested her department try AWA.

"It's been good," Ashley says. "Staff members enjoy their day off, especially to take care of personal matters that can't be handled on the weekends." These include child care and the illnesses of family members, issues mentioned by employees

in other departments.

Emory School of Law this month rolled out an AWA program as a summer pilot. "We aim to provide temporary relief to our employees as they seek ways to reduce their rising transportation costs," says Director of Administration Kevin Moody.

The infrastructure technology division of University Technology Services uses AWA year-round and, since its inception, "morale has improved," says John Ellis, director of infrastructure technology services.

Parking issues and travel time to the office originally drove AWA, but "now the need for it is a little greater," Ellis says, citing gas prices and anticipated construction that will take out parking areas.

Division managers use AWA to counter another pressure: "We're competing in a tight market for highly technical positions... and telecommuting is one of the benefits they expect," Ellis says.

From a manager's perspective, a lot of discussion and planning goes into setting up the AWA and more updates are required on a daily basis, but AWA is "definitely worth it," Ellis says.

"We're competing in a tight market for highly technical positions ... and telecommuting is one of the benefits they expect."

— John Ellis, director of infrastructure technology services

Senior graphic designer Rick Fiala works four days a week from his home in Athens. His contract calls for him to be in the office on Fridays and as required.

High-speed cable and a flat-rate any-time, any-amount phone line with call waiting make remote communication "work really beautifully," he says.

"There is a certain energy you draw from having people around you," he notes. "I'm used to being on my own. But with phone, iChat, e-mail, I don't feel that alone any more."

For Lisa Parker, financial aid adviser at Candler School of Theology, the advantages of her compressed workweek "are endless. It helps me to be a better employee because I

feel like I have the options to do things during the day. I'm out sick less often. Everything from personal appointments, to lunch with someone I would not normally get to visit, to sleeping in. It is the best of both worlds."

Parker has been working four 10-hour days, with Wednesdays off, since 2003.

"Every position is different. My challenge was to show my supervisor how things could still flow if I could get the time off," she says.

When it's "all hands on deck," she reverts to the five-day week.

Drawback? "Ten-hour days are not easy," Parker says.

To learn more about AWA options and policies, visit www.hr.emory.edu/eu/worklife/worklifesupport/awa.html.

'Great place to work'

Emory has been recognized in an online survey conducted by The Chronicle of Higher Education as one of the 2008 "Great Colleges to Work For." Find out why in the next issue of Emory Report on Aug. 4.

Campus carbon offsets eyed

By CAROL CLARK

Could selling carbon offsets help create more renewable energy at Emory? The Office of Sustainability Initiatives is investigating that possibility, building on preliminary research conducted by Julie Mayfield '96L, the University's second sustainability scholar-in-residence.

"There are several promising areas for renewable energy on campus," says Mayfield, who served as director of Emory Law's Turner Environmental Law Clinic for four years.

Mayfield researched renewable energy projects at universities throughout the country, then met with key people within Emory's Facilities Management. Based on the data she gathered, she recommends that Emory consider pursuing more in-depth, technical analysis of the following possibilities:

Solar-thermal energy

"It's an efficient technology for heating a large body of water like a swimming pool," Mayfield says, adding that it requires a sizeable investment to install solar-thermal arrays to heat a pool, such as the one in the Woodruff P.E. Center. By one estimate, it could take 17 years to see the payback for the energy savings.

Geo-thermal energy

"This technology takes advantage of the Earth's fairly

constant cool temperature to reduce energy use by heating, air-conditioning and ventilation systems," Mayfield explains. Water is pumped through pipes that are installed several hundred feet below ground. As the water moves through the pipes, it is naturally cooled to about 50 degrees. When that water comes back to the building, it helps lower air temperatures within buildings during the warmer months. Conversely, in winter the water is warmer than outside temperatures, taking stress off the heating system.

Other institutions applying this technology found that it paid for itself within three to five years, Mayfield's preliminary research showed.

"Some universities that have started using geo-thermal heat pumps are saving literally hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in heating and cooling costs," she says. Given that the majority of Emory's buildings are heated and cooled through centralized steam and chilled water distribution, it is unclear if Emory would realize similar savings, but Mayfield recommends investigating the technology — particularly for buildings not on the central system.

Anaerobic digesters and gasification

"Emory currently uses natural gas to power its steam plant, and we looked at the possibility of displacing some of that gas with a more renewable fuel," Mayfield says. By putting cam-

pus food waste, grass clippings and woody debris into an anaerobic digester — a high-tech composting system — Emory could turn this waste into its own supply of methane gas.

"In addition to providing a renewable energy source in the methane, it could reduce the waste that Emory sends to a landfill every year," Mayfield says. Again, costs will be a major factor in determining whether this technology is feasible at Emory.

Mayfield's research was part of an ongoing effort by the Office of Sustainability Initiatives to determine the feasibility of

using carbon offsets to help fund renewable energy on campus and as one more way to help Emory shrink its carbon footprint.

"The key to success is willing and supportive people who want to find ways to make renewable energy work," Mayfield says. "Emory has an advantage in that the leadership, from the president on down, is firmly committed to sustainability."

Mayfield completed her term as sustainability scholar-in-residence this month and is currently executive director of the Western North Carolina Alliance, an environmental advocacy group based in Asheville.

sustainability spot

Turning off your lights and computer or driving less often is a more effective way to reduce your carbon footprint. Emory's sustainability vision asks that all of us take individual steps to reduce overall energy consumption by 25%.



EMORY

blue and gold make green

Campus

5

REPORT FROM: Emory Alumni Association

Summer planning behind successful event season

Summertime is planning time at the Emory Alumni Association. June through August is when events like Emory Homecoming Weekend, among others, take shape. Alumni volunteers are recruited to lead University-wide efforts like class reunions or asked to take charge of local activities for their regional chapters. The essence of summer is in full swing around the country with alumni-led events like a concert in Chicago, an outdoor happy hour in Philadelphia, and baseball games in Dallas-Fort Worth and Tampa Bay (the sold-out game in Tampa Bay is actually indoors at St. Pete's Tropicana Field, but we don't quibble).

Our summer social events can be serious and socially conscious, too.

Emory GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alumni) sponsored several activities around the Atlanta Pride Celebration earlier this month. The Houston chapter is presenting an alumna author, an oncologist, who chronicled her friendship with one of her terminally ill patients.

On the lighter side, in July and August, the EAA is hosting more than 20 Let's Go Emory! parties around the country to welcome new students to the University community — the Atlanta area alone has three of them (at Mellow Mushroom on LaVista Road and others in Decatur and Marietta). The Let's Go Emory! parties bring together these new students with current students and alumni, all of whom can give valuable

first-person accounts of campus.

Let's Go Emory! parties are just one way the EAA reaches out to students. One of our most successful outreach endeavors is our internship program, now in its third year. This summer we've added a quartet of new staff members. Paige Jackson '07Ox, Chelsea Long, Kelley Quinn, and Kaitlyn Dennihy are all completing summer internships at the EAA. Jackson, Long and Quinn are all Emory students assisting with and frequently leading projects in reunions and homecoming, alumni programs and volunteer programs.

Dennihy is a rising junior at the University of Georgia. A public relations major at UGA, her developing skills are perfectly aligned to the

communications and marketing tasks she performs at the EAA. And when the EAA visits Athens on Aug. 22 for its final Faculty Destinations speaker event (featuring the School of Medicine's Arthur Kellermann '80M and Oxford's Mike McQuaide), Dennihy, who will be back in school by then, will be moonlighting as an EAA staff volunteer as well.

So while it's summertime at the EAA and the pace, honestly, is a bit slower, the hard work that takes place here through August pays off for the entire Emory community come fall.

Eric Rangus is director of communications for the Emory Alumni Association.

NEUROPOLICY: Studying collective decision-making



BRYAN MELTZ

Gregory Berns will lead the new Center for Neuropolicy as the Emory Distinguished Chair of Neuroeconomics.

Continued from the cover

Berns specializes in the use of brain imaging technologies to understand human motivation and decision-making, with a special interest in neuroeconomics and social neuroscience. He will lead the Center as the Emory Distinguished Chair of Neuroeconomics.

"For decades, neuroscientists, psychologists and economists have studied human decision-making from different perspectives," says Berns. "Although each has approached the problem with different theories and techniques, the basic question cuts across many fields: how do humans balance individual self-interest against societal good?"

"We all live in groups," notes Berns. "Sometimes groups make good decisions, but oftentimes groups behave worse than any of its members would. This new center will approach the problem of collective decision-making from an entirely new perspective, by studying how the human brain functions in groups."

The Center includes support from three schools. It will be developed over a span of five years and will be divided into areas of teaching, research and policy. Thomas Lawley, dean of Emory School of Medicine; Bobby Paul, dean of Emory College; Larry Benveniste, dean of the Goizueta Business School; and Dennis Choi, executive director of Emory's Comprehensive Neurosciences Initiative are actively supporting this endeavor.

"The Center for Neuropolicy is an-

other example of how Emory is working across schools and disciplines to pioneer initiatives with significant implications for our community, the nation and the world," says Fred Sanfilippo, executive vice president for health affairs. "Dr. Berns' expertise and leadership, in collaboration with the diverse group of Emory leaders who will also be involved, will make this center a model for other institutions to emulate."

Members of the Center will have the ability to advise decision-makers of all kinds by conducting experiments focused on the biologically based pressures that influence collective decision-making. Their advice will be based on scientific discoveries that will open up a whole new understanding about how culture, intelligence and environment influence the way decisions are made, and how basic human tendencies drive judgment in certain situations.

Berns points out that we also need to understand how religious and political ideologies become transformed in the brain and can subvert basic self-survival value judgments, which occurs in war and terrorism.

"Collective decision-making is political, but politics are biological. The human brain evolved to function in social groups. By discovering how our brains are wired to behave in group settings, we can begin figuring out solutions to problems of global impact," says Berns, author of the forthcoming "Iconoclast: A Neuroscientist Reveals How To Think Differently."

Emory maintains ranking among top U.S. hospitals



JACK KEARSE

By LANCE SKELLY

Emory University Hospital again joins the prestigious ranks of America's top medical institutions in the annual U.S. News & World Report guide to "America's Best Hospitals."

Emory ranked among the nation's best hospitals in eight specialties, including seven top 20 rankings and a top 10 ranking for Ophthalmology. Overall, Emory is one of only 170 hospitals, out of more than 5,400 medical centers in the country to be named in even one of the magazine's top 50 specialty rankings. And its eight specialties are more than any other hospital in Georgia.

"The dedication and commitment to excellence by thousands of physicians, nurses, researchers, medical support staff and employees across the entire Emory Healthcare system is certainly validated by this report today," says John T. Fox, Emory Healthcare president and CEO. "While our mission of delivering compassionate care and scientific discovery is recognized each day by our patients, we are challenged daily by our own success to work even harder, to achieve greater outcomes, and to continue building a more patient- and family-focused model of care that will maintain Emory's position as a world leader across all disciplines of medicine and clinical care."

Included in this year's ranking were cancer services. Emory is the only facility in Georgia to be ranked in the top 50 for cancer services.

"This is a reflection of the hard work

and dedication put forth by everyone involved in cancer treatment, research and care at Emory University," says Brian Leyland-Jones, director of Emory Winship Cancer Institute. "In addition, as we continue to work towards NCI [National Cancer Institute] cancer center designation we are actively recruiting extraordinary talent in basic, translational and clinical science to enhance the quality and depth of our research and to accelerate the pace of discovery."

The rankings in 12 of the 16 specialties weigh three elements equally: reputation, death rate, and a set of care-related factors such as nursing and patient services. In these 12 specialties, hospitals have to pass through several gates to be ranked and considered a Best Hospital.

In the four other specialties — ophthalmology, psychiatry, rehabilitation and rheumatology — ranking is based solely on reputation, derived from the three most recent physician surveys.

Emory Hospital rankings

Specialty	Rank
Ophthalmology	9
Geriatrics	11
Psychiatry	11
Heart & Heart Surgery	13
Neurology & Neurosurgery	13
Ear, Nose & Throat	19
Kidney Disease	20
Cancer	47

Magnolia compound strikes cancer target



"Honokiol could be effective as a way to make tumors more sensitive to traditional chemotherapy," says dermatologist Jack Arbiser of the natural compound that comes from magnolia cones.

KAY HINTON

By QUINN EASTMAN

A natural compound from magnolia cones blocks a pathway for cancer growth that was previously considered "undrug-gable," Emory researchers have found.

The finding is just one example of dermatologist Jack Arbiser's skill in finding anti-cancer compounds in the natural world. He has also been probing the properties of curcumin (the bright yellow pigment found in turmeric), gentian violet and mate tea extracts.

His laboratory has been studying the compound honokiol since discovering its ability to inhibit tumor growth in mice and stop tumors from attracting new blood vessels several years ago.

Honokiol comes from magnolia cones and is found in Japanese and Chinese herbal medicines. Reports of its antitumor activity earned international attention in 2003, including television spots showing Arbiser's co-workers grinding up magnolia cones by mortar and pestle with a

satisfying "thwack."

Now he and his co-workers are closing in on where within the cell honokiol acts as a disruptive monkey wrench. Arbiser's team's results describing honokiol's target were published in the July issue of *Clinical Cancer Research*. The research was a collaboration with David Foster's laboratory at Hunter College in New York City.

"Knowing more about how honokiol works will tell us what kinds of cancer to go after," Arbiser says. "We found that it is particularly potent against tumors with activated Ras."

Ras refers to a family of genes whose mutation stimulates the growth of several types of cancers. Members of the Ras family are mutated in around a third of human cancers. However, "many of the targets in cancer that are most attractive from a biological perspective are considered intractable from a chemical standpoint," according to a 2007 commentary by Harvard chemist Gregory Verdine in *Clinical Cancer Research*.

Honokiol's properties could

make it useful in combination with other kinds of antitumor drugs, because blocking Ras activation could prevent tumors from escaping their effects.

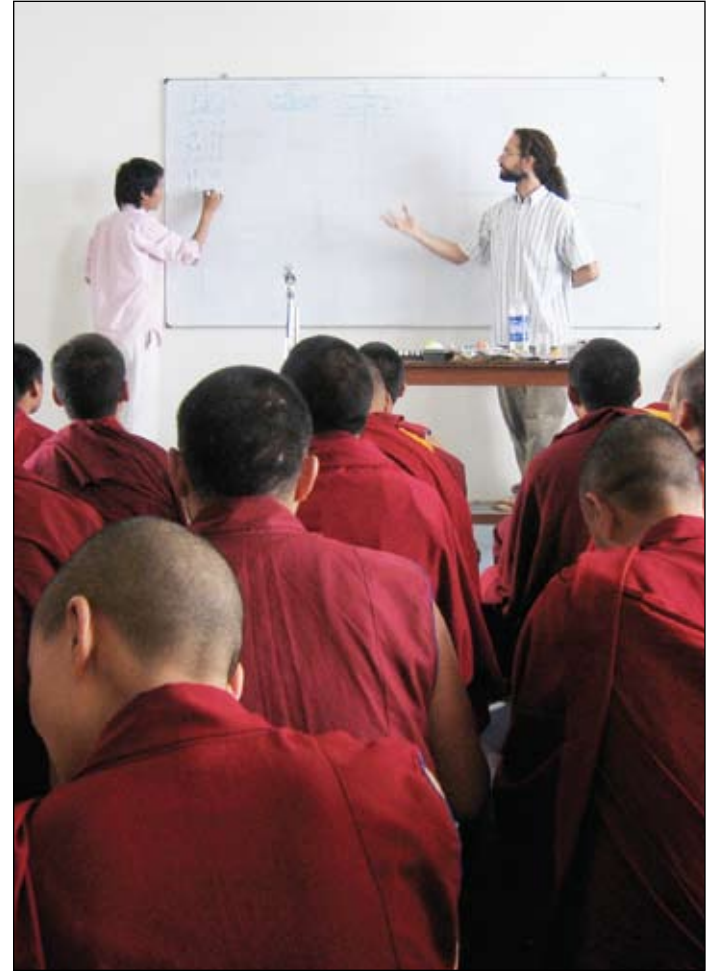
In addition, one of the effects of Ras is to drive pumps that remove chemotherapy drugs from cancer cells.

"Honokiol could be effective as a way to make tumors more sensitive to traditional chemotherapy," Arbiser says.

In breast cancer cell lines with activations in Ras family genes, honokiol appears to prevent Ras from turning on an enzyme called phospholipase D, Arbiser and his colleagues found. It also has similar effects in lung and bladder cancer cells in the laboratory. Phospholipase D provides what have come to be known as "survival signals" in cancer cells, allowing them to stay alive when ordinary cells would die.

Emory is in the process of licensing honokiol and related compounds so that they can be tested in people in cooperation with industry partners.

SNAPSHOT



MATT GILBERT

Emory-Tibet initiative bridges continents, concepts, cultures

Emory physics lecturer Jed Brody (standing, right) explains Newton's laws of motion to a class of Tibetan Buddhist monks, assisted by a translator, Karma. Brody was one of more than a dozen science faculty who traveled to Dharamsala, India, this summer to begin teaching the first comprehensive science education curriculum especially developed for Tibetan monks and nuns.

The Emory-Tibet Science Initiative, a collaboration of Emory and the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, grew from a shared vision of His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama and Emory. The initiative aims to bridge the best of modern science education with the wisdom and insights of the ancient monastic tradition, through a long-range commitment to foster dialogue and exchange knowledge.

— Carol Clark

Americans eating more processed sugar, new study finds

By ASHANTE DOBBS

Americans are getting more than 10 percent of their daily calories from fructose, used mainly in sugar-sweetened beverages and processed foods, a new study finds.

The study, analyzing the amount and sources of dietary fructose consumption among U.S. children and adults from 1988 to 1994, was published in the July 9, 2008 issue of *The Medscape Journal of Medicine*.

Fructose occurs naturally in fruits and vegetables; however, it is added to many processed

foods as table sugar (sucrose) and high-fructose corn syrup.

"Measurement of fructose consumption is important because growing evidence suggests that it may play a role in health outcomes," says lead study author Miriam Vos, assistant professor of pediatrics in Emory School of Medicine.

Vos and colleagues examined fructose consumption patterns by sex, age group, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status and body mass index for 21,483 U.S. children and adults. They used a single 24-hour dietary recall administered in the third National

Health and Examination Survey, the only nationally representative survey in the past 20 years to include fructose content as a reported variable.

The study found that U.S. children and adults consumed 54.7 grams of fructose per day, an almost 50 percent increase from a national study sample conducted in 1977-78, which estimated mean consumption of fructose at 37 grams per day.

Fructose consumption was highest among adolescents ages 12 to 18 at 72.8 grams per day. Among racial and ethnic groups, non-Hispanic blacks consumed

the most fructose at 57.7 grams per day, or 11 percent of total calories. Normal-weight participants (56.2 grams) consumed more fructose than obese persons (51.1 grams). And those in the highest-income category consumed less of their total calories from fructose than those in the lowest-income category.

The largest source of fructose was sugar-sweetened beverages (30.1 percent), followed by grains, which include processed foods such as cakes, pies and snacks, breads and cereals (21.5 percent), and fruit or fruit juices (19.4 percent).

"Short-term studies have shown that fructose can elevate plasma triglycerides," says Vos. "Further surveillance and research are needed to assess trends in fructose consumption and to develop a better understanding of the health impact of this common additive in the food supply."

Study authors included Jean Welsh of Emory's Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Nutrition and Health Science Program, and researchers from the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Forum

NEWSMAKERS



"If I were the Obama campaign, I wouldn't attack The New Yorker, but I would use this as an opportunity once again to talk about how the right is trying to paint him and his wife as 'foreign, different, not like us, and, by the way, did I mention that they're black?' I don't think the cover does much other than give the Obama campaign what they need."

— Drew Westen, professor of psychology, in "What was The New Yorker thinking with that magazine cover?" in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* July 15.

FIRST PERSON

Program's cause has far-reaching effect

By MIKE MCQUAIDE

Mike McQuaide is professor of sociology at Oxford College.

Vietnam is not the first country that comes to mind when I think of nations that have much relevance for current circumstances in the United States. When I do think of Vietnam, the thoughts take the form of memories from television in the 1960s.

Like many American families, our family watched Walter Cronkite's CBS Evening News religiously. What I knew of Vietnam came from black-and-white images of American soldiers firing their automatic weapons at an invisible enemy in a tropical forest somewhere far away.

After the American armed forces withdrew entirely from Vietnam in 1975, little news emerged from that place. For the next two decades, the memories were too painful to consider and Vietnam essentially disappeared from American day-to-day consciousness.

On May 12 of this year, I accompanied 13 other travelers from Oxford College to Hanoi, Vietnam. The northern region of Vietnam was the focus of Oxford's 2008 Global Connections travel seminar headed by Rev. Judy Shema, the chaplain of Oxford College. The program came into existence in 2006 as an extension of Oxford's focus on engaging students with learning opportunities far removed from our comfortable campus.

The 2006 program examined the sociology of depopulating regions with an in-depth look at eastern Montana. The 2007 program traveled to Poland to learn firsthand of that nation's efforts to deal with its recent history and negotiate an entry into the global economic system. This year, we decided to visit Vietnam to learn more about human rights, issues relating to the natural environment, global economics, and the post-American period of Vietnamese history.

What better place to explore issues relating to the natural environment? Vietnam leads the world in children with genetic defects. This unfortunate fact reflects the American use of Agent Orange, i.e. dioxin, one of the most potent carcinogens and mutagens ever invented.

In an effort to defoliate the trails used to supply the Viet Cong, the American armed services sprayed tens of thousands of gallons of dioxin over large regions of Vietnam. The chemical built up in the water and soil and puts the people of that nation at continued risk today.

When we started our travel in

Vietnam, I asked the students to keep track of the number of tractors, combines or mechanical harvesters of any kind that they might see. After visiting many places and traveling several hundreds of miles by bus, we finally saw a mechanical tiller south of Da Nang.

I had visited Vietnam in 2005 with my wife in preparation for this specific program and knew that almost all of the agricultural labor was done by hand. The group was amazed when they reflected on the comparisons between Vietnamese and American farms.

Our guide told us that elementary education was free up to the age of 8. After that, we were told, the parents had to pay tuition for their children to attend school. Many, if not most, families are too poor to pay for all of their children to attend school. Usually it is the first son who continues his education while his siblings go to work in the rice paddies.

Perhaps the most poignant moment of our shared time in Vietnam came when we visited the Research and Training Center for Community Development in Hanoi. In an insightful con-

versation, Dr. Tran Tuan, the director of RTCCD, outlined the many complex social and health problems found in Vietnam.

His comments focused on maternal social capital and child health. Social capital represents those sorts of resources that are available through social connections. We learned of the many dynamics that affect social relations in Vietnam. Rapid economic growth, increasing inequality, urbanization, and social exclusion create circumstances that damage the well-being of families in general and children in particular.

The conversation then turned to resources necessary to address these circumstances. Dr. Tuan told us of his tiny budget and the difficulties of securing funds. Our hearts ached as we realized that poor countries simply do not possess the resources required to effectively deal with a variety of social problems.

That evening, we talked among ourselves of trying to create an internship in which an Emory student, maybe from the Rollins School of Public Health, could be posted to the RTCCD as a grant writer. The comparison of our American affluence and the overwhelming problems of developing societies could not have been more stark.

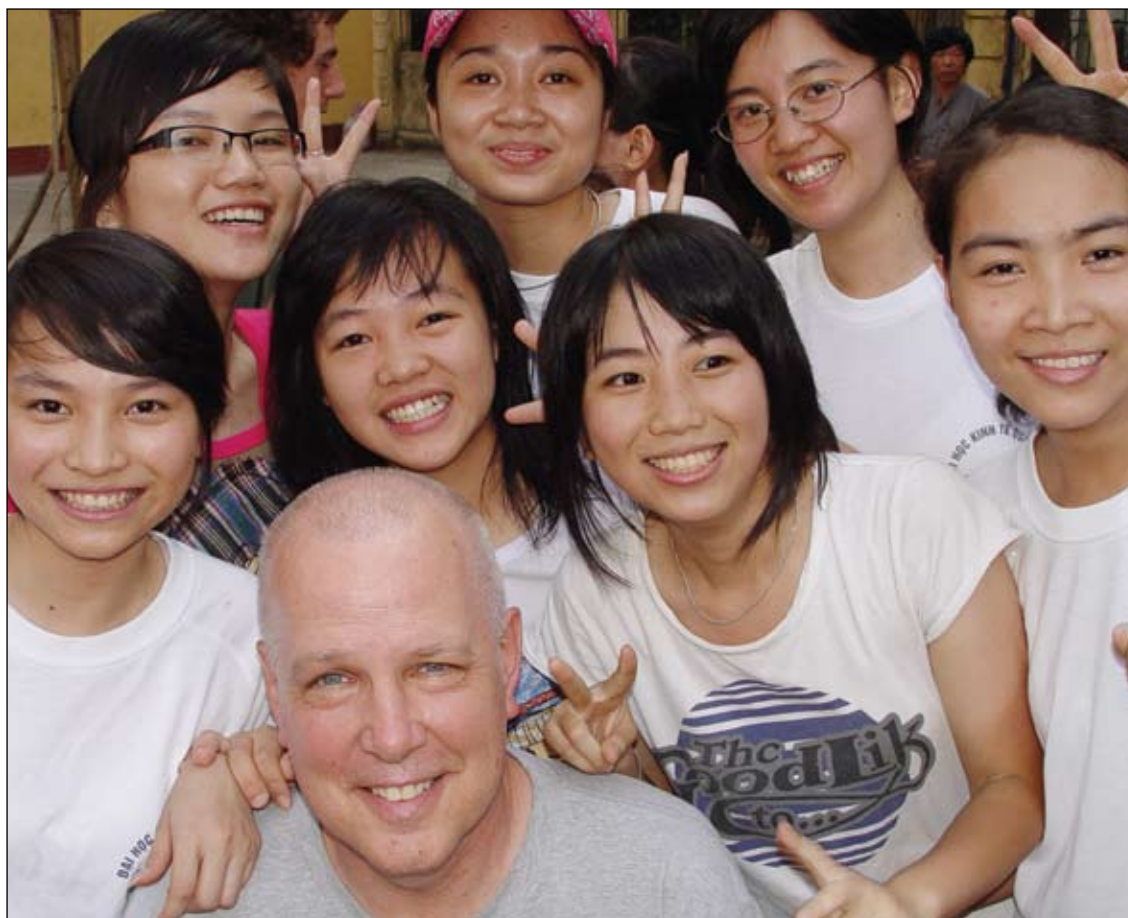
We enjoyed many light mo-

ments on our journey. Wherever we went, the Vietnamese noticed us.

As we walked from our conversation with the administrators of the National Economic University in Hanoi, we were joined by dozens of Vietnamese college students. They flocked to us to practice their English language skills and to engage us with every sort of question about our lives in the United States.

We found the Vietnamese people to be exceptionally warm and welcoming, and very curious about us in the most affirming way, especially in light of our troubled history.

As our group reflected on what we had seen in Vietnam, it was encouraging to listen to the Oxford students begin to consider how American policies and practices affect people all over the globe. The goals of our Global Connections program were realized; 13 more Americans are aware of the ways in which our decisions here at home have consequences for others, particularly in developing societies. In my view, this is one of the most important consequences such travel programs make possible — a clear understanding of cause and effect relations that stands at the center of a good liberal arts education.



Professor Mike McQuaide (center) led Oxford College's Global Connections travel seminar to Vietnam to learn more about human rights and other issues.

SOUNDBITES

Rushdie reading travels time

The crowd gathered to hear Salman Rushdie read from "The Enchantress of Florence" — some of which was written as Emory's Distinguished Writer in Residence — were treated to the tale of its creation.

"This novel came about in a strange way," Rushdie said.

The Italian Renaissance and Mughal India had always interested him. "Here you have two cultures, both at a kind of pinnacle — both in highly literary, artistic musical, artistic renaissances — who barely knew each other."

There is no evidence of travel from India to Europe at the turn of the 15th century, he said. "The moment I realized it hadn't happened, I immediately became obsessed with the idea of making it happen."

Part of Rushdie's national book tour, the event was presented by Emory, A Cappella Books and the Carter Presidential Library.

— Kim Urquhart

Higgins' photos illuminate Nubia

"Light is my mistress. She and I have a very good relationship, I pay attention to her, she pays attention to me," said Chester Higgins, referring to his photos on view until Aug. 15 at the Schatten Gallery.

In "Nubian Dreams: Images of the Sudan," Higgins' presents a documentation of three ancient Nile societies — the Axumites, Nubians and Kemetians. "These images capture the imagination of an ancient people. Here we see the human mind focused on issues of divinity and the scared life," said the famed photographer. "We see what these ancient people constructed to their faith, believing in a God greater than themselves, with the power of life and death."

— Christi Gray

Ghana works to go global

The view of the business community in the small African nation of Ghana on globalization "is based on negatives and we have to break through that," Robert Lindsay, executive director of the Ghana Investment Promotion Center, told participants at the First Annual Globalization Conference hosted at Emory.

Lindsay said increased protectionism is "being exhibited more and more by local businesses, who feel that globalization is killing their livelihood."

The former Coca-Cola executive said: "The idea of trade presupposes you have something to sell. We have a supply problem. We don't have something to sell."

Instead he tells the trade ministry "...to focus on industrial strategy."

"Our aspiration is that someday people won't be talking about Singapore, they'll be talking about Ghana."

— Leslie King

SPECIAL

Items are compiled from the University's master calendar, Events@Emory, and from individual submissions to Emory Report. Submit events at least two weeks prior to the publication date at www.events.emory.edu or christi.gray@emory.edu. Listings are subject to space limitations.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Season's bests at Emory Chamber Music Society

Now celebrating its 16th season of excellence, the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta, under the leadership of artistic director and pianist William Ransom, brings together some of the finest guest artists and metro Atlanta musicians, dancers, choreographers and composers for its 2008-09 season. The extraordinary range of music in the chamber repertoire will be showcased through ECMSA's Emerson Series, Family Series and Noontime Series concerts.

Visit www.arts.emory.edu to view the season schedules.

EMERSON SERIES

Grammy Award-winning cellist Sara Sant'Ambrogio will join Ransom to kick off the Emerson Series in back-to-back evening performances Oct. 3 and Oct. 4 that collectively encompass Beethoven's complete works for the cello and piano pairing.

The season also includes world premieres by Emory composers Steven Everett, John Anthony Lennon and Richard Prior; a collaboration between the Vega String Quartet and Emory dance faculty, George Staib; and an afternoon of "Pianomania" with the piano faculty and special guest, President Jim Wagner.

Tickets to the Emerson Series (\$20; discount category members \$15; students free) and Family Series (\$4) are available by phone (404-727-5050) and online at www.arts.emory.edu.

NOONTIME CONCERTS

The ECMSA's popular series of free noontime concerts in the Carlos Museum will feature Brahms' "Quintet in F Minor" presented by the Vega String Quartet and pianist Jonathan Shames. Other guests include violinist Cecylia Arzewski, cellist Benjamin Karp and violinist Richard Luby performing a variety of music from Bach to Prokofiev.

FAMILY SERIES

ECMSA's Family Series, also in the Carlos Museum, offers programs for children including seasonal Christmas, Chinese New Year and spring concerts. Tickets for these concerts are \$4 for the public, but Carlos Museum Family-level and above members receive four free tickets.

HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL

Ransom, Mary L. Emerson Professor of Piano and head of the piano faculty, is also the artistic director of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival. The festival celebrates its 27th season from July 6 to Aug. 10 including a gala performance featuring Grammy winner Chris Thile. For festival tickets and information, visit www.h-cmusicfestival.org or call 825-526-9060.

Seminars

Thursday, July 24

"Updates in Sarcoma."

Gina D'Amato, Emory oncology, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

Thursday, July 31

"Mixing Oil and Blood: A Look at Surgery and Art."

Bahair Ghazi, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

Special

Tuesday, July 22

Farmers Market. 11 a.m. Cox Hall Bridge. Free. Every Tuesday.

Visual Arts

Wednesday, July 23

ARTIST TALK: "Picking Cotton: Mississippi to Detroit." Nancy VanDevender, artist, presenting. 7 p.m. Visual Arts Gallery. Free. 404-712-4390. *Related exhibition on view through July 31.*

Now Showing

Nubian Dreams: Images of Sudan-The Photography of Chester Higgins. Schatten Gallery, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-4282. *Through Aug. 15.*

Nubian Treasures From the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Carlos Museum, Third Floor. \$7 suggested donation. 404-727-4282. *Through Aug. 31.*

Workshops

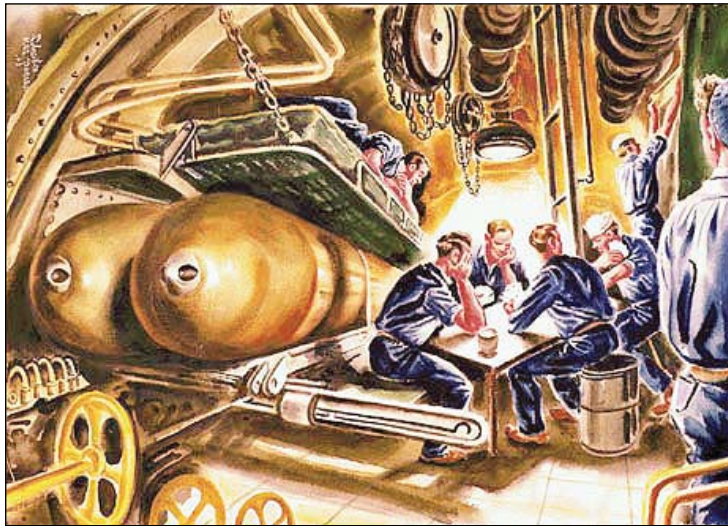
Thursday, July 24

Learning Services Workshop: Influential Leadership. 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road. \$60 for workbook. 404-727-7607.

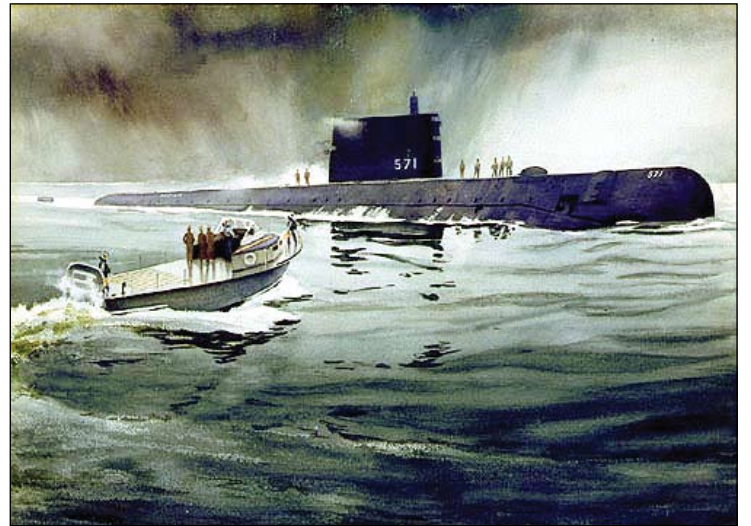
Tuesday, July 29

Learning Services Workshop: Working Through Conflict. 8:30 a.m. 1599 Clifton Road. \$60 for workbook. 404-727-7607.

ON VIEW



All Hands Below, USS Dorado by Georges Schreiber



USS Nautilus by Albert K. Murray

Voyage to The Carter Center for 'A View from the Periscope'

Dive into the underwater world of submariners at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum.

"A View from the Periscope," now on display through Aug. 3, features paintings and drawings from the U.S. Naval Historic Center's art collection.

The exhibition provides a look at the unique role of the U.S. Submarine Service and celebrates the 60th anniversary of the former president's submarine service.

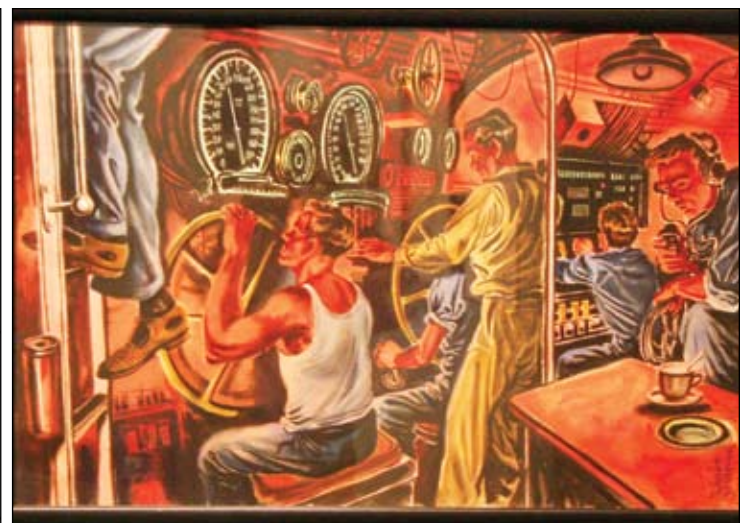
The exhibition includes a 1902 drawing of the Hunley, the first submarine, as well as 42 other historic paintings and drawings from the World War II-era to the 1980s. Artists such as Thomas Hart Benton, Georges Schreiber and John Charles Roach capture the mystery of the submarine and the adventurous nature of submariners.

The Carter Presidential Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from noon to 4:45 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors and \$6 for military and students with IDs. Children 16 and under are free.

For more information, call 404-865-7101 or visit www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov.



Conning Tower, USS Dorado by Georges Schreiber



"Eighty Feet Below" by Georges Schreiber